

Whiteman AFB, Mo.



Lineage

Established:

509th Bombardment Wing Very Heavy, on November 3, 1947

Organized:

November 17, 1947

Redesignated:

- 509th Bombardment Wing, Medium, on August 1, 1948
- 509th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, on December 1, 1969
- 509th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, on September 30, 1990
- 509th Bomb Wing on September 1, 1991



509th Bomb Wing



Photo by SrA Tia Schroeder

General Characteristics: **Primary Function:** Multi-role heavy bomber **Builder:** Northrop Grumman Corp. **Contractor Team:** Boeing Military Airplanes Co., General Electric Aircraft Engine Group and Hughes Training Inc., Link Division **Thrust:** 17,300 pounds each engine **Length:** 69 feet **Height:** 17 feet **Wingspan:** 172 feet **Speed:** High subsonic **Cost:** \$1.157 billion **Ceiling:** 50,000 feet **Takeoff Weight (Typical):** 336,500 pounds **Range:** Intercontinental, unrefueled **Armament:** Conventional or nuclear weapons **Payload:** 40,00 pounds **Crew:** Two Pilots **Date Deployed:** December 1993 **Inventory:** Active force, 21

Photo of B-2 Bomber Aircraft

The Combat Edge